

Philip's life was one of more than service to others. He believed he was called to love all those who the Almighty had placed in his path. He came to know the God of his understanding and sought Him in various houses of worship, untold bookstores, scientific studies, and the gathering of friends. His strong faith was a gift to his family each day.

He is survived by his wife, Brenda, his daughter, his son-in-law, and the light of his last years, his granddaughter Brooklynn Isabella Graham. I ask my colleagues to join with me in celebrating the life and legacy of Philip Graham. May we, together, pray for his family as we—in his memory—recommit ourselves to lives in service to each other.

RECOGNIZING BLUES GYM AND MR. DINO NEWVILLE OF GRAND RAPIDS

HON. PETER MEIJER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 22, 2022

Mr. MEIJER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize philanthropist, small business owner, and four-time world kickboxing champion, Mr. Dino Newville.

As operator of Blues Gym, a mixed-martial-arts facility in Grand Rapids, it is not just Dino's athletic accomplishments that make him worthy of recognition. For nearly a decade, Blues Gym has been both a family and a sanctuary to hundreds of at-risk young adults. While offering important lessons in self-defense, Blues Gym also provides tutoring, counseling, and it regularly organizes food drives for those in need. The tireless work of Dino and his volunteers to uplift the youth in our community is a generous act of service for which we should all be incredibly proud.

Dino, who rallies behind the motto "Fill the Gyms, Not the Prisons," runs the gym as an entirely non-profit, volunteer-based organization. Relying almost exclusively on donations and public support, Dino has even re-entered the ring himself to raise funds in support of those who find sanctuary at Blues Gym.

A highly skilled athlete and major proponent of our community, Dino has been recognized by the City of Grand Rapids on numerous occasions, the first time in 1981, for his accomplishments and philanthropy. As a vocal advocate for issues affecting young adults in Grand Rapids, Dino has proven that he will stop at nothing to ensure that they have the resources and opportunities needed to stay safe and thrive.

Madam Speaker, it is people like Mr. Dino Newville and the volunteers at Blues Gym who truly embody the spirit of giving and service. Dino is a role model for all of us, and I am proud not only to represent him, but to call him my friend.

HONORING MICHELLE DONCHES FOR 31 YEARS OF CONGRES- SIONAL SERVICE

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 22, 2022

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a crucial member of my staff,

Mrs. Michelle M. Donches. Michelle has dedicated herself for 31 years as a congressional staffer. I'm thankful that she has been with me for almost 12 years, since my first day in Congress on January 3, 2011.

Michelle's career with the U.S. House of Representatives began in 1991 when the Office of the Clerk hired her to work as a Benefits Clerk in the Finance Office. Michelle was promoted to the Payroll Department, where she worked until 1999. Michelle transitioned from Payroll to her current position as a shared staffer, handling the office finances for multiple Members of Congress. Throughout her career, she has worked for 28 different Member offices and currently works for 9 Members.

Michelle grew up in Bethlehem, PA. After she graduated from college, she married her best friend, Steve, and started working on the Hill just weeks later as Steve began law school. Now, Steve is a practicing attorney in Loudoun County, VA. Michelle and Steve have two exceptional children. Her daughter, Taylor, graduated from the University of Virginia in May as a Civil/Environmental engineer. Taylor currently works for Kimley-Horn in Reston, VA. Her son, Stevie, is a freshman at the University of South Carolina.

Michelle's work ethic and expertise have been a true asset to my staff. I'm thankful for her tenure as a part of Team PALAZZO, and I know all the Member offices who have worked, currently work, and those that will work with her are so lucky. Madam Speaker, I express my gratitude to Michelle for 31 exceptional years.

RECOGNIZING THE 18TH ANNUAL FAIRFAX COUNTY HISTORY CON- FERENCE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 22, 2022

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Fairfax County History Commission on the occasion of the 18th Annual Fairfax County History Conference.

Since 1969, the Fairfax County History Commission has worked to identify, document, record and preserve the history of our region. There are few areas in the country that are as rich in history as our area is. The History Conference provides an opportunity to reflect on the accomplishments of the past year while recognizing our neighbors who have made significant contributions to preserving and promoting our local history. Through the dedicated efforts of the History Commission and its many volunteers, we are assured that our history will not be lost and will be available for future generations.

This year, a number of dedicated individuals are being honored for their commitment to the preservation and education of history. I am proud to include in the RECORD their names:

Mike Salmon and Ean Eschenburg for their work to promote and preserve the history of Fairfax County through video historic documentary production. One of their first productions, entitled "The Gravel Pits: Before There Was a Kingstowne," takes the viewer from today's busy, attractive residential and commercial area of Kingstowne to the days when it

was a semi-abandoned concrete plant known as the Leehigh Cement Company.

Debbie Robison for her 11 years of service on the Fairfax County History Commission, including 2 years as the Commission's Chairperson. Her in-depth knowledge of Fairfax County and surrounding jurisdictions is beyond compare. She has been first and foremost a life-long promoter of the history and preservation of Fairfax County's history.

George Mason University Capstone Computer Science Program 2021 graduates, Akbur Asuri, Steve Cheuko, Brian Do, Fernando Galarza, Roman Patrick, and Samuel Pitch, for creating the Fairfax County African American History Inventory Database. The project included the labor, research and design to create a user friendly and future oriented data base, referenced as the African American Historic Inventory.

I commend the Fairfax County History Commission for helping to ensure that the abundance of history that is available to our community will be preserved far into the future.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating all the honorees and thanking the Fairfax County History Commission for the important work they do for the Northern Virginia community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 22, 2022

Mr. POSEY. Madam Speaker, due to a transportation issue, I was unable to cast my vote on S. 2333, the Equal Pay for Team USA Act of 2022.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 532.

RECOGNIZING MIKE NICHOLA

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 22, 2022

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Mike Nichola, my former Legislative Director, and current Osceola County community leader. Mike has dedicated his professional life to helping better Osceola County and Central Florida.

Mike was my first Legislative Director and helped to establish my legislative office. He has a long list of impressive legislative accomplishments. Throughout his congressional career, from drafting hundreds of pieces of legislation to securing millions of dollars worth of appropriation requests, he always kept in mind that it's a privilege to work for the home office and would frequently go above and beyond for our constituents.

Since moving back to Central Florida, he continued to advocate for our community through Osceola County government. He was instrumental in helping the County navigate the uncertainty of the pandemic. He also helped the County get funding for roads, affordable housing, rental assistance, fire fighters, to restore their lakes and rivers, addressed storm water issues, and diversified